

UWM LGBT Issues Advisory Committee
2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 14, 2006
Bolton 521

Attending: Tony Peasley (Chair), Cheryl Andres, Todd Biedermann, Ed Burgess, Michael Doylen, Paula Johnson, and Lauren Otte.

Guests: Provost & Vice Chancellor Rita Cheng, and Assistant Vice Chancellor Dev Venugopalan.

1. Discussion with Rita and Dev:
 - a. Domestic Partner Benefits:
 - i. Board of Regents is strongly in favor, but ultimate decision lies with State government.
 - ii. Recognition of competitive nature of recruiting and maintaining employees; no DP benefits, but an aggressive pay plan increase (5.23% per year in next biennium).
 - b. Changes in Climate after Passage of Amendment:
 - i. Not at UWM, but some at other campuses (Oshkosh and Platteville).
 - ii. No Graffiti in Bolton; lots in the Union; some in Mellencamp.
 - iii. Maintain contact with Physical Plant; Director has zero tolerance for graffiti.
 - c. Goals for Coming Year:
 - i. More educational approach
 - ii. New student organization – PLUS (People Like Us). The Rainbow Alliance is defunct.
 - d. Lisa Beckstrand's Visit:
 - i. Inclusivity Survey – Need something actionable.
 - ii. UWM should be participating in System's Inclusivity Initiative.

Dev and Rita depart.

2. Agenda approved, with addition of "Set Goals for 2007".
3. Minutes of November 12, 2006 meeting reviewed and approved.
4. Old Business:
 - a. Tony met with Dev:
 - i. Goals are to get involved with inclusivity and working on getting in touch with Madison.
 - ii. We have no budget. If we need something, we should talk to Yves in the LGBT Resource Center.
 - b. No volunteers to co-chair the Committee. Secretarial duties will continue to rotate among members.
5. New Business:

- a. Michael spoke about Lisa Beckstrand's visit, which was poorly attended, and suggested that the LGBT Issues Advisory Committee write a letter of recommendation in support of a Climate Study. Michael will draft this letter for the Committee's review at the January meeting.
 - b. According to the police, there have been no hate crimes reported in 2004 – 2006. It was noted that hate crimes are notoriously underreported and that no one really knew what constituted a "Hate Crime".
 - c. What are our goals?
 - i. We want to help students. It's important to have a strong, visible student group.
 - ii. We want to raise awareness among campus officers of our existence. Can we collaborate with other offices?
 - iii. Panel of students/staff Q/A session to address LGBT issues and share coming-out stories.
 - iv. Rewrite our Charter to expand the number of members. We want more students. We'd like more Center Directors as Ex Officio members.
6. Other
- a. This will be a "rebuilding" year – open to hear new goals in January.
 - b. Committee would like to invite the new Director of Human Resources, Karl Spark, to our February meeting.
 - c. Discussion of Spring meeting schedule. Maintain current schedule – Thursdays at 2 or 2:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 11 at 2:00 p.m. in Bolton 521.